



Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for
CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT

Terms of Reference - Individual Contractor
Temporary support to the Office of the SRSR for Children and Armed Conflict

Individual Contractor – Training Specialist
Virtual Summer School 2022

A. Background

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSR CAAC) serves as the leading UN advocate for the protection and well-being of children affected by armed conflict. The mandate of the SRSR CAAC was created by General Assembly Resolution A/RES/51/77 following the publication, in 1996, of the report by Graça Machel on the impact of armed conflict on children.

The first SRSR CAAC was appointed in 1997 by the Secretary-General. The SRSR CAAC reports annually to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council. Since 1999, the systematic engagement of the UN Security Council has placed the protection of children affected by armed conflict at the heart of its international peace and security agenda. In 2005, the Security Council adopted resolution 1612 which established the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on six grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict: recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence, attacks against schools and hospitals, abduction of children, and denial of humanitarian access for children.

These six grave violations progressively became triggers for listing (except the denial of humanitarian access) in the annexes of the Secretary-General's annual report on children and armed conflict. In addition to the Annual Report of the Secretary General, country-specific reports on the situations mentioned in the annexes of the Annual Report are also regularly submitted to the Security Council and recommendations thereto adopted by the UN Security Council Working Group (SCWG) on CAAC. Ending and preventing violations against conflict-affected children, raising awareness, promoting the collection of information about the plight of those children and fostering international cooperation to improve their protection are at the heart of the mandate.



Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for
CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT

B. Project description and objective

The Office of the SRSG CAAC is organizing a Virtual Summer School (VSS) on Child Protection in Armed Conflict in collaboration with the Government of Malta and the University of Malta. The VSS is a training opportunity specifically designed to bring together partners from different related professional backgrounds and to strengthen their capacities to support the CAAC mandate.

While a number of courses on peace and security, international humanitarian and human rights law, and child protection touch upon CAAC, there is as of today no benchmark training that specifically and comprehensively addresses the protection of children in armed conflict. The “child protection officer/advisor” profile, which is critical to the effective implementation of the CAAC mandate, is a very technical and yet political role, calling for specialised training. The CAAC mandate is one of partnership and collaboration involving many other professionals from different backgrounds, for whom dedicated training on CAAC is equally relevant. The VSS offers an introductory course on Child Protection in Armed Conflict and is meant to address these needs by providing a state-of-the art training on this topic. It aims at strengthening the knowledge, competencies and skills of actors contributing in various capacities to the protection of children in armed conflict through a holistic and collaborative approach.

The targeted audience is professionals contributing or likely to contribute in various capacities to child protection in armed conflict and related issues, such as UN entities, I/NGOs, government officials, regional and sub-regional organizations, legal professionals, journalists and communication officers, military as well as academics, and students.

As the training is a pilot project, its implementation will be evaluated and documented in order to assess lessons learned and the added value of the VSS. In this respect, a follow-up online workshop will bring together again the participants and trainers after the VSS for a collective review of the course. The final findings of the evaluations will be compiled in a study presenting the VSS results and lessons learnt and enclosing clear recommendations on the way forward. The study will be shared in the framework of a high-level event, where the sustainability of this project will be discussed.

Against this backdrop, the Office of the SRSG CAAC is looking for Training Specialists to draft **one or more of the 20 comprehensive modules (Modules M2 to M21 appearing in blue in the [course overview](#) attached in appendix)** and to conduct the corresponding training sessions, including practical exercises. As the VSS will be held exclusively online, the Training Specialists should have experience in delivering virtual presentations and be skilled, structured and dynamic speakers.



Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for
CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT

C. Responsibilities

Under the guidance of the Program Management Officer of the Liaison Office of the SRSG CAAC, the Individual Contractor will:

Prior to the VSS (3 working days)

- Draft a comprehensive theoretical module in English;
- prepare a summary PowerPoint-Presentation on the main highlights/take aways of the course;
- produce a list of core reading material primarily in English (possible optional reading can also be provided in French, Spanish and Arabic)
- prepare contents, methodology and support documents for the corresponding live session in consultation with the project manager (45') (using varied teaching techniques adapted to adult and online learning)
- prepare contents, methodology and support documents for a practical/interactive exercise in English tailored to the audience;
- participate in one or two preparatory meetings to be familiar with the Virtual Platforms;

During the VSS (1 working day)

- Facilitate a module, which entails holding a presentation, interacting with the students through discussions and responding to questions, as well as conducting the related interactive exercise;

After the VSS (1 working day)

- Participate in written consultations and/or follow-up workshop on lessons learned within three months following the VSS;
- Contribute inputs to the future publication.

D. Expected outcomes

- A detailed written module, enclosing a reading list in appendix;
- A corresponding practical exercise, that can be implemented online;
- The conduct of a live webinar on the given module;
- A PowerPoint presentation summarizing the main takeaways of the module; Written and oral feedback on the implementation of the VSS, including written comments on the O/SRSG-CAAC's draft publication on the lessons learned and practical recommendations for improvement of possible future editions of the VSS.



Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for
CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT

E. Location

The individual contractor is expected to work remotely.

F. Duration of Work

The estimated duration of work is **five working days per module**, spread over the period of July to December 2022 as follows:

- Three working days in July for the preparation of the Module;
- One working day for the delivery of the training module during the VSS (29 August to 9 September); and
- One working day for the follow-up workshop on the lessons learnt and practical recommendations to be held within three months after the VSS (tentatively in October 2022 - TBC).

G. Qualifications

Education

- Advanced degree (Master's or equivalent) in law, political sciences, international relations or other disciplines related to international human rights law and/or international humanitarian law. A combination of relevant academic qualifications and five years additional work experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

Experience and Functional Competencies

- At least seven years of progressively responsible experience, preferably including at least two years as a trainer in human rights and/or (child) protection and at least two years professional experience in conflict or post-conflict settings;
- Familiarity with the UN system and good knowledge of the CAAC mandate as well as of relevant international standards and principles;
- Excellent knowledge of adult and online learning and development techniques;
- Previous experience developing and conducting **online** trainings;
- Excellent communication skills, including the capacity to tailor language to multicultural audiences and to actively engage participants from different backgrounds;
- Strong adaptability and time management skills;
- Gender sensitivity and cultural sensitivity;



Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for
CHILDREN AND ARMED CONFLICT

Languages

- Fluency in written and oral English is required.
- Knowledge of other UN languages an asset.

H. Application

The following documents must be submitted with all applications (incomplete applications will not be accepted) to Sabrina Cajoly, Program Management Officer at the Liaison Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict – Europe, at cajoly@un.org.

Please refer to “Individual Contractor **Training Specialist VSS**” in the subject of your email.

1. **Cover letter**, demonstrating how you meet the above requirements and indicating the **number and titles of modules** that you are offering to develop, with reference to the [course overview](#) attached in appendix;
2. **Personal History Profile (PHP) or (P11)** – go to www.inspira.un.org to create an account and PHP, if you do not already have one.

***The deadline to apply is **12 June 2022**. ***